



Information about Dance Etc.'s Performance Team

Updated March, 2009

What is the Performance Team?

This is a new concept at Dance Etc. This team (which will actually consist of two teams: a younger team and an older team) will give opportunities for students who want to perform in front of people regularly, but not compete. We will perform periodically throughout the community at nursing homes, libraries, festivals, community centers... year-end Spring Showcases, basically anywhere we can get an audience!

What are the ages for the Performance Team?

Students must be at least 5 years old, and have at least one year dance training experience. We are especially looking for students between the ages of 7 and 14.

What are the types of dance the Performance Team will do?

- Ballet (Christmas-time only)
- Tap
- Jazz
- Character and musical theatre type routines
- We will **not** be doing acrobatics or hip-hop
- We would ideally like the younger group to learn three to five routines. We would like the older group to learn anywhere from five to ten routines.

How many days a week will the performance team meet?

The performance team must attend their regular dance classes throughout the week (for example, ballet, tap, etc.). In addition, there will be a separate day and time that the team will practice routines. The younger students will come once a week for about an hour; the older students will come once a week for up to 3 hours.

What are the positive aspects of being on a performance team?

Most importantly, the opportunity to be challenged and provide entertainment to other people! There is a great feeling of accomplishment by sharing a love of dance with others.

How does a student get accepted onto a performance team?

1. First, the parent or student should let us know that they are interested. Call or stop by the front desk and fill out an application.
2. If the student is a current student, the teachers will decide if the student is ready for the performance team. If the teachers are undecided, we will contact you to schedule an audition. There is no charge for auditioning.
3. We will hold an informational parent meeting that we offer for anyone interested in joining the performance team. During the meeting, we give you all the information you need and answer any questions you may have, and the kids may be asked to dance together to make sure the group is a good match.



4. If accepted onto the performance team, you will be notified either in person or via e-mail. Included in your team acceptance packet will be scheduling information. You can then decide to accept or decline.

What are some of the things to consider before joining the performance team?

Benefits

- Team members will greatly expand their knowledge of routines, and will learn to pick up new choreography very quickly.
- Team members will learn how to perform in front of all kinds of audiences, on all kinds of stages. For those who already love to be the center of attention, it's great fun. For those who are more shy, the act of performing is a confidence booster.
- Being part of a team is a great experience, which can develop strong, long-lasting relationships.

Costs

- There is an increased time commitment – Students will need to be at regular rehearsals and performances. Parents will be asked to volunteer when needed.
- We will do everything we can to reduce the cost of participation in the team, however there will be additional costs.
 - There will be extra classes, however, tuition will be reduced for the hours spent rehearsing. Our goal is to cover the costs of paying the teacher for her teaching and planning time.
 - Costumes will be as low-budget as possible. We will try to use free and donated costumes. The costumes will remain the property of the studio, and the dancers will borrow them for each performance. The dancers will need to purchase any leotards, tights, etc. that might be worn underneath.
 - Performance team members will need to dress uniformly when in class (black halter leotard, black shorts, Dance Etc. shirt, etc.) and when traveling to and from shows (matching sweatshirts, etc.). Also, everyone's shoes must match.



What are the class requirements?

- Dancers must be enrolled in at least one ballet class per week
- If a dancer wants to participate in the tap routines, she must also be in a tap class. If a dancer wants to participate in the jazz routines, she must also be in a jazz class. (Combination classes, such as the Ballet-Tap-Jazz combo, or Tween Mix are OK.)
- Rehearsal times are 1 hour a week for the younger group (kindergarten, first graders, and second graders) and up to 3 hours every week for the older group. We are likely to schedule these practices for Saturday afternoons.

What if my daughter wants to do tap and jazz, but not ballet?

At Dance Etc., we believe in developing well-rounded dancers. We ask that each of the performance team members try each of the types of dance and “give it their all.” A dancer may decide later that she loves a new type of dance, especially after her level of confidence has increased.